

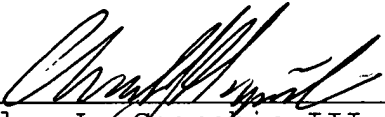
REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment puts the claims into proper form for examination. Note that claim 37 has been amended; new claim 43 has been added; and claims 1-36 and 38-42 remain unchanged. Kindly calculate the filing fee based on the amended claims.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter which would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure

Red-lined claim for the Examiner's convenience:

37. The ventilation duct component of claim 35-~~or~~36,
wherein the sealing gasket is axially fastened to the tubular
element by arranging the sealing gasket in a circumferential
groove.

37. The ventilation duct component of claim 35-~~or~~36,
wherein the sealing gasket is axially fastened to the tubular
element by arranging the sealing gasket in a circumferential
groove.